OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

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KIRK CALDWELL MAYOR



ROY K. AMEMIYA, JR. MANAGING DIRECTOR

GEORGETTE T. DEEMER
DEPUTY MANAGING DIRECTOR

September 9, 2019

Mr. Andrew Robbins
Executive Director and CEO
Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation
City and County of Honolulu
1099 Alakea Street, Suite 1700
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Robbins:

I am writing in regards to the plan for the upcoming utility relocations and the guideway construction along Dillingham Boulevard. I appreciate the recent meetings that have been held to discuss Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation's (HART) current plans for this portion of the project. However, I believe that significant work still remains on the development of these plans and that much more information is needed.

It is surprising that a plan for the work along Dillingham is just now being finalized and presented. This area has long been considered to be the most complicated portion of the rail route. You have assured me that this can still be accomplished in a timely manner. If this is not correct please, let me know why.

I realize that you and your team are working to finalize the details of the plan and we appreciate all the time and attention given to this critical section of the rail line. I want to emphasize some important items that City Administration would like to receive as soon as possible:

- A list of all of the key stakeholders that need to be involved in the acceptance of the plans, including the multiple City and State departments and external organizations such as Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) and others, that could be impacted. Also, periodic updates on the status of the agreements, or concerns, of these stakeholders with the plan. I expect HART to continue to involve all of these parties in discussions about the plan details.
- A detailed work plan, along with a detailed timeline, for the steps that need to be completed prior to starting the work along Dillingham. Also, similar information for the period of time during which the work will be performed. HART needs to be realistic and transparent when communicating the impact and the timing of this work to all parties involved, most importantly the community that lives and works in this part of town.

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A detailed communication plan with the community.

I want to also let you know that I have received comments from several sources that have raised concerns about the current proposed engineering feasibility of the plan. As the plan is finalized and presented, it is essential that HART address the feasibility of the plan and listen to the feedback from its stakeholders.

Finally, I want to mention my concern about the potential impact of this plan on the solicitation process for the public private partnership (P-3) for the City Center portion of the rail project. It is my understanding that the current plan may be different from what has been previously communicated in the P-3 request for proposals. Please advise whether HART has taken the impact of any changes into consideration.

I want to see the rail project succeed and I also understand the critical nature of the Dillingham corridor. I can assure you that the City will work closely with HART on the plan for this area, but in doing so, the City must have a good understanding of the plan and be in agreement with the approach before proceeding.

Sincerely,

Kirk Caldwell Mayor

cc: Honolulu Authority for Rapid Transportation Board of Directors City Council Members Roy K. Amemiya, Jr., Managing Director Rick Keene, Managing Directors Office